

quickly as humanly possible, which should have been done years ago, so that its people never again will face the calamity of last week. If Holland can do it, the little nation of Holland, then so, too, can we.

But to accomplish all of this and so much more that remains to be done, it will take leadership, leadership unlike that which has controlled Washington for these last several years. The times demand leaders who understand that the true test of leadership is not how we accentuate the differences among us but instead how we reconcile them, how we forge principled consensus, how we find common ground. We need leaders who appeal to us to think about something other than narrow self-interest but instead focus upon the greater, the better good.

The answer to our challenges can be found all around us on this floor. It is written in the motto of the Great Seal of the U.S. Senate. *E Pluribus Unum*: Out of Many, One.

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United, there are no challenges we cannot meet; divided, we will be surrounded by dangers, our potential as a nation unfulfilled.

So this Sunday, September 11, let us say a prayer for the victims in New York and for those on the Gulf Coast and, most of all, let us say a prayer and ask for a blessing on this great country that we might have the unity and the wisdom and the selflessness to fulfill the full meaning of our creed: "One nation under God, with liberty and justice for all."

Thank you, Madam President. I yield the floor.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM). Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM REHNQUIST

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I would like to take the next 10 minutes to talk about a couple of different items.

Not far from where we are today, the body of our late Chief Justice has lain in repose, and a number of us were privileged to go there earlier today just to say goodbye and to thank him for his service to our country—33 years. That is a long time, more than three decades that he has served us. His love for our country, his love for the law and the integrity of our Nation's judiciary system was only surpassed by his love for his family and for those with whom he worked.

During his time on the Court, he fostered, among other things, real conge-

niality among the Justices—something that is not easy to do in that forum or, frankly, in this one. In return, he was held in high esteem by his colleagues who had called him, among other things, "brilliant," "principled," "generous," with "a good sense of humor," something we can never have too much of.

He demonstrated great personal strength and courage in leading the Court and this country through difficult and contentious times, continuing his work in the face of ever-daunting health problems that would have set most of us on our backs and far out of the courtroom.

There are many judicial hallmarks of his time on the Court. Throughout his tenure on the Court, he staunchly supported the independence of the Federal judiciary and our overall governmental system of checks and balances. We will miss him, but we are grateful that he was here to serve us for as long as he has.

HURRICANE RELIEF

Mr. CARPER. I would also like to talk about the good efforts that are going on in a number of places around our country to support the relief effort to those who have been stricken by Hurricane Katrina. We heard a fair amount of questioning about whether the response was adequate, was timely, what we could have done better, what we needed to do better, and those are all legitimate questions and they need to be answered in time—some of them now, some of them in the course of the next couple of weeks and months.

I said to some of my colleagues with whom I was discussing Katrina and our response—we were talking about the role of government in a situation such as this—Lincoln had it right about 150 years ago when he said words to the effect that the role of government is to do for people what they cannot do for themselves. That is our role in this instance as well.

Not long ago I was in our church, and the focal point of the sermon was the parable from the New Testament about the Good Samaritan and the question that is asked at the beginning of the parable of the Good Samaritan, Who is my neighbor? We go on to be reminded that our neighbor is not just the people who live across the street from us in Wilmington, DE, or in South Carolina. Our neighbor could just as well be a person who lives in New Orleans, Biloxi, Mobile, or any of the other places affected.

I am inspired by outpouring, not just from government and for us to do our jobs—we are paid literally to help people in instances such as this, and that is the expectation of us, but for a lot of people this is not their expectation. People are literally showing their faith by their deeds. In some cases, people are opening up their homes, opening up their military installations, opening up all types of facilities to receive those

who have been dislocated, welcoming youngsters to schools far from the schools those kids would normally be attending to make sure their education is not disrupted.

I think of the folks from my own State, the doctors and nurses, folks in our medical operation out of our Delaware Air National Guard. They were literally on the scene today providing services and assistance to those who need it. People are collecting food, people are giving blood, people are giving boatloads of money and, frankly, boatloads more are needed. But it is an inspiring outpouring after a difficult and disappointing beginning.

Among the questions I hope we will focus on as we try to decide what went well and what did not go well, what was right, what went right, and what we did poorly, is the issue of the levees that surround the city of New Orleans that keep Lake Pontchartrain from pouring into the city of New Orleans. If you look in the dictionary for a definition of "city at risk" if there ever was a Category 3, 4, or 5 hurricane, you would see New Orleans. That is the poster child for this kind of risk. We knew the threat was there. We knew it was a grave threat. We have been talking about it for years. The people have talked about it for years. The Army Corps of Engineers sought to reinforce the levees.

We knew this storm was coming. It is not one that popped up at the last minute. Yet, in spite of that, the work that should have been done on the levees to strengthen them to sustain this kind of onslaught by Mother Nature, someone has dropped the ball. I am not interested in finger-pointing or witch hunts. We have to find out where we went wrong, why we went wrong, and fix that. If New Orleans is ever to rise again—not from the ashes but from the waters that engulf it today—this is an issue that has to be not only resolved, we have to come up with a solution to make sure we have learned from this very expensive lesson.

I fear a storm which could have cost tens of billions may cost more than \$100 billion to repair the damage, a lot of it from New Orleans. A storm that could have cost us hundreds of lives will probably cost us thousands of lives. It did not have to be.

The last thing I wish to say is I was encouraged in the presentation we had by some of our Cabinet Secretaries who talked about what the Department of Health and Human Services is doing, making sure the folks who need medical assistance and Medicaid eligibility, identification, people who need help getting their food stamp allocations, people need to receive their unemployment checks—all kinds of things were discussed, what the Federal Government can do to help people. It was encouraging.

One of the presenters was the Secretary of the Department of Treasury. He talked, as the Presiding Officer may recall, about the work being done to